

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the sequence listing in the as-filed application with the copy attached hereto.

In the application at page 1, after the title and before line 3, please insert the following:

-- RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a national stage application (under 35 U.S.C. 371) of PCT/EP2003/014774 filed December 23, 2003 which claims benefit to German application 102 60 707.9 filed December 23, 2002. --

In the specification at page 13, line 17, please replace the paragraph which starts with “Especially advantageous”, with the following amended paragraph:

Especially advantageous plants are those which comprise the sequence ~~No. 4~~ of SEQ ID NO: 1 coding for leghemoglobin and/or the sequences ~~No. of SEQ ID NOS: 3~~ and/or 5 coding for hemoglobin. Leghemoglobin and/or hemoglobin from *Lotus japonicus* is preferably employed. The transformed plants will now produce an increased amount of storage reserves.

In the specification at page 13, line 23, please replace the paragraph which starts with “The invention also”, with the following amended paragraph:

The invention also encompasses plants which, in order to produce storage reserves, express a leghemoglobin as shown in sequence ~~No. 4~~ of SEQ ID NO: 1 and/or a hemoglobin as shown in sequences ~~No. of SEQ ID NOS: 3~~ and 5.

In the specification at page 15, line 1, please replace the paragraph which starts with “The invention furthermore”, with the following amended paragraph:

The invention furthermore relates to a nucleotide sequence as shown in sequence ~~No. 1~~ of SEQ ID NO: 1 coding for leghemoglobin for use in a plant and a corresponding gene structure or vector and their use for transforming a plant with the invention.

In the specification at page 15, line 6, please replace the paragraph which starts with “In particular”, with the following amended paragraph:

In particular, the invention also encompasses the use of a leghemoglobin-encoding nucleotide sequence which has approximately 70%, preferably 80%, especially preferably 85%, 90%, in particular 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identity with the sequence ~~No. 1~~ of SEQ ID NO: 1.

In the specification at page 15, line 11, please replace the paragraph which starts with “The invention furthermore”, with the following amended paragraph:

The invention furthermore relates to nucleotide sequences as shown in ~~No.~~ SEQ ID NOS: 3 and 5 coding for hemoglobin for use in a plant and a corresponding gene structure or vector and their use for transforming a plant. In particular, the invention also encompasses the use of hemoglobin-encoding nucleotide sequences which have approximately 70%, preferably 80%, especially preferably 85%, 90%, in particular 91%, 92%, 93%, 94%, 95%, 96%, 97%, 98% or 99% identity with the sequences of SEQ ID NOS: 3 and 5.